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NEWS

Air Pollution

Association Joins Litigation Over Mercury Rule Finding
ARIPPA, a trade association representing coal refuse power
plants, has joined in litigation over the Environmental Protection
Agency's final supplemental finding that it is "appropriate and
necessary" to regulate emissions...

Air Pollution

EPA Agrees to Act This Year on Objection to Biomass Permit

The Environmental Protection Agency has agreed to decide this year whether to grant a request by the Partnership for Policy Integrity, which wants the agency to object to a Clean Air Act permit granted by the Georgia Department of Health....

Air Pollution

EPA Sued Over Delayed Air Toxics Reviews

A coalition of environmental organizations want a federal district court to set deadlines for the Environmental Protection Agency to complete overdue reviews of national air standards covering certain industrial sectors (Cmty. In-Power...

Air Pollution

Lawsuit Against Utah Copper Mine Dismissed Kennecott Utah Copper LLC lawfully exceeded a limit on material tonnage it was allowed to move from a mine site under Utah's plan for coarse particulate matter pollution, a federal judge ruled, dismissing a lawsuit against the mining giant...

Air Pollution

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Lawsuit Seeks EPA Decision on Alaska Fine Particles Plan Two environmental groups are asking a federal court to set a deadline for the Environmental Protection Agency to take final action on an Alaska plan to reduce fine particulate matter in Fairbanks in a lawsuit filed June 9 (Citizens for Clean...

Air Pollution

Nucor Can't Challenge Competitor's Permit, Court Says A steel company cannot use the Clean Air Act's citizen lawsuit provisions to block issuance of a required pre-construction permit to a competitor, an appellate court ruled, upholding a lower court's decision (Nucor Steel-Ark v....

Air Pollution

OECD: Air Pollution Deaths Could Triple by 2060 Without policy action, premature deaths linked to outdoor air pollution could triple by 2060, costing around 1 percent of global economic output, or about \$2.6 trillion annually in medical costs, lost sick days and agricultural production,...

Budget

House Panel to Mark Up EPA Spending Bill June 14
The House Appropriations Committee June 14 will mark up legislation to fund the Environmental Protection Agency, the Interior Department and related agencies for fiscal year 2017, committee spokeswoman Jennifer Hing told Bloomberg BNA...

Chemicals

BASF Unfazed by German Rival's \$62 Billion Move for Monsanto

BASF SE said it will stand by its strategy of reducing costs and streamlining its product range as a solo chemical maker even as German rival Bayer AG attempts to hammer out of \$62 billion takeover of U.S. seed company Monsanto Co....

Chemicals

Canada Repeals Federal Vinyl Chloride Release Regulations

Canada repealed a federal regulation governing air releases of vinyl chloride, saying that it wanted to avoid regulatory overlap, as the toxic substance is covered under other federal and provincial rules. ...

Chemicals

Plaintiffs Can't Join Perchlorate Suit Against Halliburton A group of 82 plaintiffs alleging that perchlorate migrating from a Halliburton facility contaminated their properties won't be added to a putative class action, the Western District of Oklahoma said (McCormick v. Halliburton Co.,...

Climate Regulation

EPA Accused of 'Scare Tactic' on Clean Power Plan Stay Suggestions that the Environmental Protection Agency might not extend the deadlines in its Clean Power Plan, should the rule ultimately be upheld following a lengthy judicial stay, are a "scare tactic" to force states to continue...

Coal Mining

Groups Lobby Congress, Agencies on Coal

A group of community and environmental organizations from Appalachia visited Congress and federal agencies June 5 to June 8, lobbying for bills and rules that would limit the use of coal....

Congress

Flint Funding Rejected; Barrasso Seeks to Bar Climate Funding

The Senate voted June 9 once again to reject funding to address water issues in Flint, Mich., on a pending defense authorization bill, while a Republican senator readied a long-shot bid to attach to the bill an amendment blocking U.S. funding...

Congress

Koch Industries Backs Anti-Carbon Tax Resolution U.S. lawmakers should support a resolution from House Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.) opposing any attempt to impose an economy-wide carbon tax because such a fee would make energy more expensive and harm the poor, one of the nation's...

Drinking Water

Saskatchewan Auditor Critical of Water Protection Saskatchewan's Ministry of Government Relations continues to fall short on testing drinking water and maintaining water systems in northern communities, the provincial auditor said in a report....

Energy

Democrats to Meet on Energy Bill Conference Strategy
The top Democrat on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources
Committee said June 9 she plans to meet next week on the
minority party's path forward on energy bill conference
negotiations....

Energy

Saving Earth by Diversifying Energy Industry's Boards
The U.S. energy sector accounts for 83.6 percent of the
country's carbon emissions, according to the Environmental
Protection Agency, so tackling climate change effectively requires
participation from the industry. However, some...

Enforcement

Allenco Fined \$1.25M, Must Monitor to Reopen LA Oil Field Allenco Energy Inc. has agreed to pay \$1.25 million in civil penalties and install a fence line monitoring system in order to resume operations at an oil and gas production field in a low-income neighborhood in South Los Angeles (People v. Allenco...

Enforcement

Marathon Petroleum to Spend \$334 Million to Cut Emissions

Marathon Petroleum Corp. has agreed to spend an additional \$334 million to limit air pollution from petroleum refineries in five states, the federal government said....

EPA

Chaffetz to Continue Pressing EPA on Bad Employee Behavior

Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-Utah) will continue to press the Environmental Protection Agency to improve its response to bad employee behavior in light of the arrest of an agency employee for possession of child pornography, a spokesman told Bloomberg...

Oceans

Shell Gives Canadian Arctic Offshore Rights for Conservation

Shell Canada Ltd. said it has relinquished its long-dormant offshore energy exploration rights in the Northwest Passage and donated those rights across a vast region toward creation of a national marine conservation area in the Canadian...

Oil & Gas

Oil Industry Says It's Bearing Unfair Load in Biofuel Battle A U.S. law that requires consumption of ethanol focuses on the wrong players, increasing costs for oil companies, petroleum industry advocates say....

Pesticides

EPA Glyphosate Mix-Up Triggers Scrutiny From Lawmakers

The Environmental Protection Agency's release, and subsequent removal, last month of several pesticide documents has triggered a new wave of scrutiny from lawmakers on Capitol Hill....

Pipeline Safety

Senate Leaders Seeking to Move Pipeline Bill by Consent Senate leaders were seeking to move a House-passed pipeline safety bill by unanimous consent, with hopes of passing the measure as early as June 9. ...

Renewable Energy

China Approves \$15 Billion of Green Debt in Pollution Fight

China approved more than 100 billion yuan (\$15.2 billion) of green bond issuance in the first five months of this year, as the world's largest energy consumer bolsters financing for clean energy to help tackle pollution at home and abroad....

Renewable Energy

Solar Makes Up Most New U.S. Power Capacity for First Time

The U.S. solar industry had a record first quarter, accounting for the majority of new power generation for the first time. ...

Renewable Energy

Suit: SunEdison Redid Boards in `Friday Night Massacre' As SunEdison Inc. navigates through bankruptcy, an 11-day period in November continues to haunt the world's largest renewable-energy company....

Risk Assessment

EPA Extends Comment Period for Waste Corrosivity Petition

The Environmental Protection Agency extended the comment period tied to a tentative denial (EPA-HQ-RCRA-2016-0040) of a petition to revise regulation of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act corrosivity hazardous waste characteristics,...

Superfund

\$1.3m Settlement Reached on Georgia Superfund Site
Private and public parties and the Environmental Protection
Agency have entered into a proposed administrative settlement
for response actions taken by the agency at the Cannon Drive
Drum Superfund site in Walton County, Ga....

Superfund

Companies Turn to FOIA to Challenge EPA Cleanups
Companies frustrated by their inability to mount early-round
challenges to Environmental Protection Agency cleanup decisions
are increasingly turning to the Freedom of Information Act for
help. ...

Superfund

Draft Portland Harbor Superfund Cleanup Tally: \$746
Million

The Environmental Protection Agency is proposing a \$746 million cleanup of Oregon's Portland Harbor Superfund site that stretches from the iconic Broadway Bridge in the heart of the city to about 10 miles down the Willamette River....

Sustainability

One Way to Meet Energy Standards: Lower Them Commercial buildings are notorious energy hogs, accounting for nearly one-fifth of U.S. energy consumption, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Efforts to make them sustainable have proved more effective among developers...

BNA INSIGHTS

Enforcement

Funding Shortfalls Plague Environmental Enforcement Training

At the end of June, the Midwest Environmental Enforcement Association will stop operations, the latest sign of troubles for regional groups that have long helped to train state environmental personnel....

REGULATORY AGENDA

Comment Deadlines

JUNE 10 FEDERAL REGISTER

JUNE 9 FEDERAL REGISTER

Daily Environment Report